



Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

05-AMRC-0262

MAY 16 2005

Mr. Nicholas Ceto, Program Manager
Office of Environmental Cleanup
Hanford Project Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
309 Bradley Blvd, Suite 115
Richland, Washington 99352

RECEIVED
MAY 23 2005
EDMC

Mr. Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard
Richland, Washington 99354

Addressees:

FAST FLUX TEST FACILITY (FFTF) DECOMMISSIONING

Reference is made to your joint letter dated January 19, 2005 asking DOE consider deferring portions of the Fast Flux Test Facility decommissioning and demolition (D&D) project until after higher priority cleanup projects at Hanford have been completed.

The strategy of FFTF deactivation and decommissioning was discussed in an April 25, 2005 meeting between RL, EPA and Ecology. Consensus by RL, EPA and Ecology was reached to complete the deactivation, including sodium residual removal. As discussed in the meeting, the two-phased approach of FFTF deactivation and decommissioning was included in the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the FFTF Closure Project. The RFP was issued on April 29, 2005. The two-phased approach involves, first completing FFTF deactivation, including sodium residual removal, followed by an RL decision to authorize phase two of proceeding with and completing decommissioning and demolition.

The two-phased approach as outlined in the RFP allows RL to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of placing the FFTF in a long term surveillance and maintenance configuration and deferring the decommissioning and demolition to divert funds to other Hanford high risk projects. A detailed schedule has not been developed for only completing the deactivation and sodium residual removal, therefore an evaluation of when and how much funding could be diverted to other Hanford projects will need to be conducted following the award of the new FFTF Closure Contract, receipt of the Project Management Plan, and validation of the new baseline.

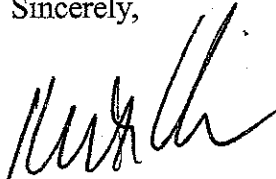
Addressees
05-AMRC-0262

-2-

MAY 16 2005

If you have any questions, please contact Leif Erickson, Assistant Manager for the River Corridor, on (509) 376-7272.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith A. Klein', written over a horizontal line.

Keith A. Klein
Manager

AMRC:RAA

cc: D. B. Bartus, EPA
R. F. Bond, Ecology
L. J. Cusack, Ecology
D. A. Faulk, EPA
M. L. Goldstein, EPA
R. E. Piippo, FHI
Admin Record, H6-08